

**From:** David and Joanna Hargis  
**To:** Ms. Renata B. Heese  
**Date:** 1/15/02 2:36pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement (Support)

Dear Ms. Heese:

I am writing to you as one of my last acts as an Oregon Citizen in support of the recent settlement of the long-running antitrust lawsuit between the U.S. Department of Justice, state attorneys general and Microsoft Corporation. Though I applaud the nine state attorneys general that decided to follow the federal government's lead and settle the case, I am thoroughly disappointed that remaining state attorneys general and the District of Columbia have decided to further pursue this baseless case.

The settlement is fair to all. It will allow Microsoft's competitors to use Microsoft's Windows operating system to incorporate their software programs and will give consumers more services and products to choose from.

As you are well aware, members of Citizens for a Sound Economy have been unrelenting in our opposition to the federal government's antitrust case against Microsoft. For nearly 3 years, activists like myself have called, emailed, visited, and sent letters to the U.S. Department of Justice and to state attorneys' general offices explaining that Microsoft's actions did not harm consumers, but provided them with great benefits by lowering the cost and increasing the availability of software products. We have stressed that Microsoft is a pioneer in the high-technology market and that their products increased our familiarity with the Internet and until now, in this depressed economy, have brought jobs to our family and taxes to you. Well no more. The jobs have vanished and we are leaving the Pacific Northwest for more prosperous regions of the country where people implement sound economic change and jobs are more plentiful. In conjunction with my support of the Microsoft settlement, I support big business. I don't want unemployment! I want a job! And I'd like to see the legislators do their job and quit worrying about the next election and stalling valuable legislation. We aren't so dumb that we don't understand what is happening. I will vote against anyone who stalls the economic recovery that is for certain.

Once again, I thank you for your decision to settle this unfortunate lawsuit against a successful and innovative company.

Respectfully,

David and Joanna Hargis  
595 Joseph Street SE  
Salem, OR 97302-3972

CC:  
Citizens for a Sound Economy